

Laney, William Robert

(Proofs of Clemency)

June 1919 - May 1920

(014)

MILITIA AND DEFENCE.

In reply please quote

No.

55 Woodlawn Avenue, W.
Toronto, Ont.

June 24th 1919

Sir Robert Falconer, K. C. M. G.
University of
Toronto.

Dear Mr. President,

I have had a most excellent and experienced clerk working for me since 1915 who will be leaving the Army soon. There will be a great deal of typing, correspondence, papers, schemes and maps in the Military Science Department next winter with all of which he is thoroughly familiar. The Department and the C. O. T. C. should provide him with all he could do, but if not Mr. Reed (who knows him well) might have part of his time with the Athletic Association.

I have been laid up since Wednesday of last week with acute neuritis, causing me great pain, but hope to get in to see you about this and other matters on Monday.

Yours sincerely,

W. R. Lang

June 30th, 1919

Professor W. C. Lane,
55 Woodlawn Avenue,
Toronto.

Dear Professor Lane:

I am sorry that you have been laid up with neuritis. But I hope that you will soon be well again.

I am afraid that we cannot add a position for a clerk to the Department of Military Instruction, and if any place is to be found for the clerk whom you wish to employ it would have to be, I think, under Mr. Reed, but what he can do I am not in a position to say.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

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February 19th, 1920

Professor W. R. Lang,
Chemical Department,
University of Toronto.

Dear Professor Lang:

I am afraid that the proposal
you make would cause difficulties in the way of
administration.

With kind regards, I am,
Yours sincerely,

President.

March 1st, 1920

Professor W. R. Lang,
Chemical Building.

Dear Professor Lang:

I have your letter asking for the use of 124 College Street. At present this building is leased to Dr. Bruce Macdonald for another year after the present. I had in mind that we might require that building for another purpose, and I do not like to make any definite promise as to how it can be used after Dr. Macdonald no longer requires it. At present the pressure on accommodation on every side is so tremendous, and the necessity of reducing the building programme at the present prices to the lowest possible dimensions is so great, that I do not like to make any promise further ahead than is absolutely necessary at present. I will, however, keep your letter.

Yours sincerely,

President.

Cpy for President's file

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H-9.

Toronto, Ont.
March 29th, 1920.

General Officer Commanding.
Military District No. 2.
TORONTO.

University of Toronto.
C.O.T.C.
Annual Administrative
Report.

Sir,

In accordance with para 82, C.O.T.C. Regulations (1916), I have the honour to submit (in duplicate) the report marginally paged.

1. The military activities of this University have suffered from the general reaction common to all militia units since the war and efforts to enrol students for a systematic course of training were unsuccessful, except in so far as is indicated in the next paragraph.

2. The University Governors in 1919 organized an academic Department of Military Studies comprising three statutory courses of lectures and practical work, optional with other subjects for the Arts degree. Some 20 undergraduates chose this option and were taken on the strength of the C.O.T.C. for drill, discipline and the militia standing necessary for their subsequently becoming candidates for Certificate "A". It is anticipated that this opportunity for simultaneously obtaining credit and qualifying for examination by the Military Authorities will lead to the successful revival of the contingent's activities.

3. Drill as a member of the contingent (and all that it comprises) was also offered as one of the forms of Physical Training now compulsory for all undergraduates, but was taken only by those mentioned in the previous paragraph. It is impossible to foretell what may happen with regard to this next season.

4. The Officer Commanding the contingent is obtaining from each of its officers a statement of his future intentions regarding continuance of service in the Corps, and recommendations for the re-adjustment of personnel will be forwarded in due course.

Military Studies.

Physical Training.

Personnel.

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Reorganization.

5. There will shortly be submitted for consideration proposals for the reorganization of the Corps on the basis of 6 double companies, 4 of these to be Infantry, 1 to be C.E. (for students of Applied Science) and 1 to be A.M.C. (for students of Medicine).

I have the honour to be.

Sir.

Your obedient servant.

President
of the University; for Military
Committee.

WML

March 29th, 1920

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Professor W. B. Lang,
University of Toronto.

Dear Professor Lang:

I am sorry that I have not been able to see you any further about the matter of your position. At an early meeting of the Board I will bring the matter up with regard to the permanence of your appointment as Director of Military Studies.

In our conversation I said that the Board assured me that this had gone into effect I think it was two years ago. At the time that the appointment went through I know that the Board took the position that the direction of military studies would become your main work in the University, and that any work that you would do in Chemistry would simply be supplementary in view of your new duties, but that you would retain your title as full professor of Chemistry. I will, however, get a definite ruling from the Board to this effect.

I am confident that the proposal as to the new staff in Medicine of which you should have charge would not be acceptable to the Board as it would really be creating a new department in Chemistry in Medicine. What I hope to arrange is that you shall give instruction to the medical students in Chemistry of the first year. I cannot at present speak as to the conduct of the laboratory work as that involves a certain control of the laboratories in the building. As to the second year in Medicine that has I believe all along been done by Professor Allan.

I hope that before the end of the present term after conversation with members of the staff in the Faculty of Medicine in charge of the curriculum the situation may clear somewhat. I am leaving for the West to-morrow and shall be absent for a fortnight.

Yours sincerely,

President.

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DIRECTOR: *Colonel W. R. Lang*
(late, General Staff, C.E.F.)

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY STUDIES

Toronto, Ont.
May 4, 1920.

Dear Mr. President,

Lt-Col. J. R. Forbes, District Paymaster, Toronto, and Captain R. A. Donald, 75th Bn. C.E.F. 177 Balmoral Avenue, were kind enough to lecture to the class in Military Studies on special subjects with which they were familiar. May I suggest that a letter from you would be a graceful way of thanking them for the trouble and interest displayed in our University work?

Yours sincerely,

W. R. Lang

May 19th, 1920

Colonel W. R. Lang,
University of Toronto.

Dear Colonel Lang:

I will bring your request for accommodation for the C.O.T.C. and Military Studies before the Property Committee and ask them to deal with the matter as soon as possible. Whether they will be in a position to reach a decision before the 28th May is doubtful, because it is not yet known whether St. Andrew's College is to vacate 164 College Street. I will, however, endeavour to do my best to secure quarters for you in the building if it is vacated.

I will present to the Conference of Universities the memorandum with regard to the C.O.T.C. together with your recommendation with regard to it.

Yours sincerely,

President.

May 14th, 1920

Professor W. R. Lang,
University of Toronto.

Dear Professor Lang:

Yesterday afternoon at a meeting of the Board it was unanimously agreed that hereafter in accordance with the resolutions of the Board on 13th June, 1918, and the 9th October, 1919, your position in the University should be that of Director of Military Studies and that your salary should be paid entirely from that department.

That in view of having undertaken these new duties you be no longer the head of the department of Chemistry in the Faculty of Arts and Director of the Chemical Laboratory, but that you are expected to deliver lectures in the Department of Chemistry for medical students of the first year and undertake such other work in connection therewith as may be asked of you by the Faculty of Medicine.

You will recognise that the Governors in taking this position are only carrying out a policy that they inaugurated early in the war of establishing this department in the University. From the beginning they recognised that with your experience you were the person in the University best fitted for this work. It would be impossible for you to direct two departments and for this reason they have asked you to devote your attention entirely to that of Military Studies with the exception of a small amount of time which you will be able to devote to lectures in Chemistry to the medical students. Such lectures would not interfere with the duties of your new department, and your experience and ability in giving these lectures will make them of value to the medical students.

Hoping that the work of your new duties will be satisfactory to yourself and successful in the University,
I am, Yours sincerely,

President.

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May 17th, 1920

Colonel R. E. Lang,
55 Woodlawn Avenue East,
Toronto.

Dear Colonel Lang:

At a meeting of the Board of Governors held on the 17th inst. the resolutions of June 1918 and October 1919 regarding the organisation of a Department of Military Studies were confirmed and as you will see by the Bursar's letter to you it is the Board's wish that you become Director of the Department.

The recent Universities' conference held at Quebec came to important conclusions, in connection with representatives of the Militia Department, regarding the position which the large Universities should take in the future for preparing young men for commissions in all branches of the Militia forces, and I mentioned that the Governors had asked you to undertake the office and duties of the Director of Military Studies, which I think was regarded as an important step in advance.

From the beginning the Governors have recognised that with your long military experience and your five year's service in the General Staff branch of the Canadian Expeditionary Force you are quite the best fitted person to successfully develop what it is expected will shortly be one of the University's most important academic activities.

In order that you may give practically your whole time to the new department it will of course be necessary that you relinquish the position of Director of the Chemistry Department to which you were appointed in 1900. It is hoped, however, that you will continue to lecture to the first year medical students as it is highly desirable that so long as you can give the time some important class in Chemistry should benefit by your long experience and ability as a university teacher.

In developing the new department I may assure you that every possible assistance will be given you. I trust that this will be agreeable and satisfactory to you.

Yours sincerely,

President.

At a meeting of the Board of Governors ^{held} on the 13th instant, the resolutions of June 1918 and Oct 1919 regarding the organization of a Department of Military Studies were confirmed and as you will see by the Bursar's letter to you it is the Board's wish that you ~~should~~ become Director of the department.

The recent Universities Conference ^{held at Quebec} came to important conclusions, in consultation with representatives of the Militia Department, regarding the position which the large Universities should take in the future for preparing young men for commissions in all branches of the Militia forces, and ^{I mentioned that the Government had asked you to undertake} it is expected that ~~the lead will~~ ^{the other duties of} have ^{been} given ^{in appointing} the Director of Military Studies ^{which I think is regarded as an important step in advance} ~~will shortly be followed by other~~.

From the beginning the Governors have recognized that with your long military experience and your five years' service in the General Staff branch of the Canadian Expeditionary Force you are ^{quite} the ~~person~~ best fitted ^{person} to successfully develop what it is expected will shortly be one of the University's most important academic activities.

~~Director.~~

In order that you may give practically your whole time to the new department it will ^{of course} be necessary that you relinquish the position of Director of the Chemistry Department to which you were appointed in 1900. It is hoped however that you will continue to lecture to the first year medical students as it is highly desirable that so long as you ~~can~~ ^{can give the time} ~~look or not~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~position~~ some important class in Chemistry should benefit by your long experience and ability as a University teacher.

In developing the new department ^{I may assume for the} every possible assistance will be given ^{you} & ~~accommodation equivalent to that which~~ ^{you} ~~have at present~~ will be provided ^{for your use.}

I trust that this will be agreeable & satisfactory to you.

Copy for President Salomon.
W.M.

O-2.
Toronto, Ont.
May 19, 1920.

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A.A. & Q.M.G., M.D.No.2.

Reorganization
University of Toronto,
C. O. T. C.

In accordance with Militia Orders Nos. 18 and 133 of 1920. I have the honour to attach lists of recommendations under the three heads, A. B. & C.

2. It will be noticed that most of the officers desire to be relieved of Active duty for the present in order to make up for the years during which they were absent from their professional duties. Many of these however are willing to return later when their work once more becomes normal; meanwhile I have consented to their present release.

3. In reorganizing I have recommended that the establishment be 6 double companies in place of 12 of the old establishment, and that authority be granted for these being at war strength. This is asked for as it is proposed to begin with not more than three companies - one in Arts, one in Medicine and one in Applied Science - and to organize the others only when these are filled and the applications for membership of the contingent require it. This will be the most satisfactory and economical method of re-commencing training activities.

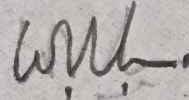
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4. There are a number of highly qualified ex-C. E. F. officers in the University who cannot yet promise their services until their academic positions in the University for 1920-21 has been settled and their work arranged. It is therefore necessary to postpone putting forward any recommendations other than the few on form A until both Staff and students return in the Fall. For this reason also, no recommendations are submitted as yet for the Field Officers of the Contingent's Staff.

5. A further list marked "D" is attached shewing Officers without C. E. F. Service wishing to relinquish their active commissions, with recommendations regarding them. The services since October 1915 of Hon. Lieut. & Quartermaster C. H. C. Wright call for special commendation and I would ask that he be considered as eligible under K.R. & O. para 261. (a) for transfer to the Reserve of Officers or Corps Reserve with the Hon. rank of Captain. He has done valuable services through 5 years intensive training seasons, - 1914 to 1919 - during which time the contingent trained about 5000 other ranks.

6. Officers on the strength of the contingent not shewn ~~on~~ any of the above lists have not responded to ~~requests~~ requests for a statement of their wishes regarding disposal.



Colonel.

Comdg. U. of T., C. O. T. C.